

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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IMPORTANT LEGAL NOTICE TO MANUFACTURERS OF CIGARETTES AND ROLL YOUR OWN TOBACCO SOLD IN MASSACHUSETTS DURING 2008

Under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 94F, a cigarette brand cannot be sold, offered for sale, possessed for sale, or stamped for sale in Massachusetts, unless the manufacturer and the brand family are listed in a Directory published by the Commissioner of Revenue, available on the <u>Department of Revenue website</u>.

In addition, commencing January 1, 2008, a cigarette cannot be sold, offered for sale, possessed for sale, or stamped for sale in Massachusetts, unless the brand style is certified as fire safe with the Department of Fire Services in accordance with M.G.L. c. 64C, s. 2A-2F.

Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 94F, Section 2(a), a tobacco product manufacturer (TPM) whose cigarettes are sold in Massachusetts shall execute and deliver to the Attorney General and to the Commissioner of the Department of Revenue its Annual TPM Certification no later than April 30, 2008. In addition, for Non-Participating Manufacturers (NPMs), escrow payments for units sold in Massachusetts during 2007, must be made no later than April 15, 2008. (M.G.L. c. 94E, s. 2(b))

Pursuant to M.G.L. c.94F and 940 CMR 24.05, a TPM must utilize the TPM Certification forms prescribed and made available by the Attorney General for purposes of M.G.L. c. 94F, s. 2. The TPM Certification must be complete, accurate and otherwise in compliance with M.G.L. c. 94F, s. 2. The Attorney General may require the submission of additional information and documents in order to verify compliance with M.G.L. c. 94E and M.G.L. c. 94F, and the regulations at 830 CMR 94E.00 and 940 CMR 24.00.

NOTE: Any NPM that sold Roll Your Own (RYO) tobacco in Massachusetts during 2007 must produce documentation verifying the reported number of RYO units sold in its Annual TPM Certification. The documentation must identify the wholesaler, distributor, or retailer by name and address that the RYO was sold to, according to brand name and units sold.

Forms and instructions for the TPM Certification are attached and are available on the <u>Attorney</u> General's website.